



OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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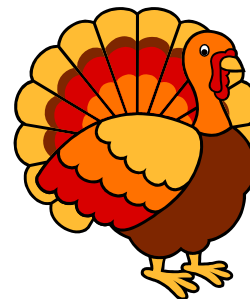
Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

Happy Thanksgiving

THINK FOOD

School Nutrition Programs

November 2005



COMMODITY SHIPMENT CHANGES

HOLD OFF ON THE FAJITAS

The USDA changed the fajita chicken delivery date from November to December. The chicken patty tenders have replaced the fajita chicken on shipment #6. The fajita chicken will be delivered to you on shipment #8.

WHERE'S THE BEEF?

Some orders for the breaded beef steaks were changed because the delivery was several cases short of what was originally anticipated. All commodity requests for additional cases were canceled and a few cases were deleted from order sheets.

AVAILABLE COMMODITIES

There are a few of the following commodities still available for shipment #7:

- Apricots, cnd
- Peaches, Slc cnd
- Pudding SS
- Salsa, cnd
- Tomato Paste, cnd
- Tomato Sauce, cnd

Also Available:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| • Bakery Mix | • Rotini |
| • Cheese, Sliced | • Oats |
| • Mozzarella Lite | • Peanut Butter |
| Shred Cheese | • Spaghetti |
| • Flour, A/P | • Sunflower |
| • Flour, Bread | Butter |
| • Flour, Whole | • Tomatoes, |
| Wheat | Diced |

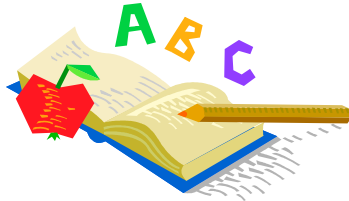
If you can use additional cases of these items and would like them added to your order please fill out and fax your commodity request form to (406) 444-2955, or mail to School Nutrition Programs. The deadline for ordering items to be shipped on shipment #7 is **December 15, 2005.**

Forms and other important information regarding School Nutrition Programs can be found on the following Web page:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/>

ROUTE TO:	_____ Food Service Director
	_____ Kitchen Staff
	_____ Administration

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

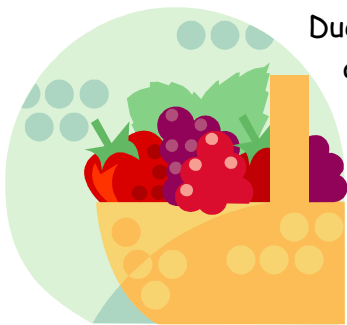


The commodity/bid committee will now be called the Advisory Bid and Commodity Committee, or simply the ABC Committee. At the last meeting, the committee not only selected a great new name, but discussed new products that are on the market and removed products that no longer fit the needs of Montana schools.

Time was also spent planning what commodities would give us the most value from our entitlement dollars. Watch for the new commodity order form that will be out sometime after the first of the year.

If you see any of these committee members thank them for the time they spent to help bring low-priced, quality products that work together with the USDA commodities to benefit Montana students.

MIXED FRUIT CANCELLED



Due to pricing and availability, the two truckloads of mixed fruit that were ordered for the December delivery and scheduled on shipment #7 have been cancelled by the USDA. Any orders for mixed fruit will be deleted and all entitlements will reflect the change.

NATIONAL CHERRY MONTH

Okay, National Cherry Month isn't until February. But it'll be here before we know it. Don't forget to order cherries by **December 1, 2005**. They will be shipped on shipment #8 beginning January 30, 2006. So far, only 9 percent schools have placed their orders and only 14 percent of the available cases have been accepted. The Individually Quick Frozen (IQF) cherries come in a 40# carton.

USES FOR IQF CHERRIES

Serve thawed cherries in fruit cups or salads, as a topping for pudding, ice cream or cake, or use in recipes for jello salads, desserts, pies, puddings, cobblers, muffins or quick breads. If frozen cherries are substituted in a recipe for canned, unsweetened cherries, adjust the recipe for sugar. Try adding cherries to the following muffin recipe.

CHERRY MUFFINS

2 cups flour
3 tsp (1 T) baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
Stir to combine, then add:
1/2 cup sugar
1 egg, beaten
2 cups milk
1 cup thawed cherries

Stir into dry ingredients just until combined. Be sure not to over-beat this recipe. The more you stir, the tougher the muffins. Bake at 375°F for 20 minutes. Bake in greased or lined muffin tins. Makes one dozen medium-sized muffins.